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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):	Harald Schmidt et al.)	
Application No.	09/762,767)	
Filed:	June 1, 2001)	Group Art Unit: 1652
For:	ISOLATED AND PURIFIED HUMAN SOLUBLE GUANYLYLCYCLASE $\alpha 1/\beta 1$ (hsGC $\alpha 1/\beta 1$))	
Examiner:	Manjunath N. Rao, Ph.D.)	Attorney Docket No. <u>VOS-101</u>

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER RULE 116

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The paper is in response to the final Office Action dated March 31, 2004 on the above-identified application.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.

A declaration under Rule 132 and a certified copy of an English translation of the German language priority application are submitted herewith. Also submitted herewith are a petition for a one-month extension of time to reply to the Office Action and a check in the amount of \$110 to cover the fee for the extension of time.